

REMARKS

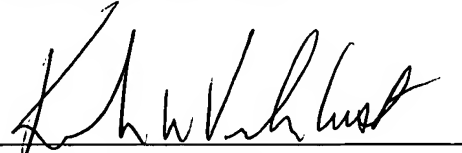
The present application includes 33 claims. Claim 1 has been amended as set forth above. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter.

Claims 12-33 have been allowed. Claims 2-4 and 7-11 are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1 and 5-6 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Riedy et al ('662). This rejection is respectfully traversed. According to the office action, element 50 of Riedy constitutes a first seal member within claim 1 of the present application, while element 18 constitutes a second seal member within claim 1 of the present application. However, element 18 of Riedy clearly is not a seal member which is "interposed between the mounting bracket and the upper surface of the floor and being adapted to seal against water infiltration between the mounting bracket and the floor and into the fitting." Rather, element 18 is an "edge surface" of the open upper end portion 16 of the floor box 14. (col. 1, lines 53-57). Riedy does not disclose or suggest that the edge surface 18 functions as a seal. To the contrary, at col. 1, lines 55-57, Riedy states that the "edge surface 18 is substantially flush with the surrounding surface 20 of the floor 12." Hence, it is clear that the edge surface 18 is not "interposed between the mounting bracket and the upper surface of the floor," as required by claim 1. Nor does the edge surface 18 "seal against water infiltration between the mounting bracket and the floor and into the fitting," as required by claim 1. To the contrary, in Riedy any water passing between the floor plate 30 and the floor surface would flow directly over the edge surface 18 and into the floor box 14 through the open upper end portion 16. Hence, claims 1-11 are patentable over Riedy.

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In view of the above, the Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims of the present application should be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or the Applicants can be of any assistance, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk A. Vander Leest", written over a horizontal line.

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